

## STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

WHEAT CLASSIFICATION, 1928-29.GENERAL.

With a view to ascertaining the extent of acreage producing very high and very low average returns of wheat per acre, the Government Statist has classified all wheat farms according to their productivity per acre. The accompanying return sets forth the details for the three seasons 1925-6, 1926-7 and 1928-9.

The total yields and averages per acre for the State for these seasons and the rainfall (April-Nov.) were respectively 28,603,101 bush. av. 11.60 bush. rainfall 11.27 inches; 35,558,711 bush. av. 12.84 bushels, rainfall 13.40 inches; 26,826,094 bush. av. 7.79 bush. rainfall 9.39 inches.

Yet 2,413; 2,896; and 1,673 farmers reaped 18 bushels and upwards per acre producing 33.34% 34.24% and 19.69% of the total wheat crop from 17.69% 20.14% and 6.94% of the total area sown. The effect of the dry season of 1928-29 is seen in the lower figures for high yields.

One of the profitable results of this analysis is the presentation of the large number of farmers in all Divisions of the State who succeed in getting returns from 18 bushels to well over 33 bushels per acre, and also the unduly large number who have reaped less than 3, 6, and 9 bushels even in the best Divisions of the State, thus bringing down the general average. These facts seem to indicate the possibility in normal seasons of obtaining from a greater number of farms increased average returns per acre from the already settled wheat areas.

#### 1. PARTICULARS OF HEAVY YIELDS IN EACH DIVISION, SEASON 1928-29.

It may be not only interesting but educational to make known a few facts which this particular study has brought to my notice. The rainfall given is the average over Divisional Agricultural areas.

CENTRAL DIVISION (av. 11.74 bush. 5 years mean 14.22 bush. per acre and rainfall 12.54 inches mean 16.46 inches.)  
In this division 714 farmers (17.33%) reaped 18 bushels and over per acre- and 84 farmers 27 bushels and over and 12 farmers 33 bush. and over.

Farm (A) County Light reaped an average of 28 bushels per acre from 33 acres of Federation, Leaks and Pine Purple wheats, on new ground on good fallow with three inches of rain in October.

Farm (B) County Gawler reaped an average of 34 bushels per acre from 115 acres of Waratah and Ford wheats using 112 lbs of super per acre.

Farm (C) County Light reaped an average of 34 bushels per acre from 383 acres chiefly of Federation, Onas and Waratah wheats using 135 lbs of super.

LOWER NORTH DIVISION (av. 11.24 bush. 5 years mean 15.89 bush. and rainfall 8.58 inches, mean 12.75 inches).  
In this Division 509 farmers (15.93%) reaped 18 bushels and over per acre and 33 reaped 27 bushels and upwards.

Farm A (County Stanley) reaped an average of 36 bushels per acre from 160 acres of Onas, Minister and Ford Wheats using 90 lbs. of super.

Farms B, C, D, & E all reaped an average of 30 bushels to acre from 550, 300, 300, 180 acres - D used mainly Nabawa and Federation and E Federation seed and B and C several varieties the chief being Caliph, Ford, and Bena. Super was used respectively 112, 90, 112, 140 lbs. per acre.

Farm F reaped 32 bushels per acre from 125 acres using 135 lbs. super and Federation seed 100 acres Ford 25 acres.

UPPER NORTH DIVISION (av. 6.34 bush. 5 years mean 10.61 bush. - rainfall 5.29 inches mean 9.47 inches).  
 Even in this Division 84 farmers (7.20%) reaped 18 bushels and over. (for the two previous seasons reviewed the numbers were 1925/6 -146 1926/7 -228). and 15 reaped an average of 27 bushels and over.

Farm A reaped 32 bushels per acre from 270 acres- 150 acres of which was sown with Federation Wheat - using 95 lbs super to the acre.  
Farm B From 400 acres reaped an average of 31 bushels, Wheat sown Federation, Currawa, Ford and Teagle using 120 lbs super to acre.  
Farm C From 135 acres reaped an average of 33 bushels per acre using 100 lbs super to acre and Federation and Ford seed.

SOUTH EASTERN DIVISION (av. 19.54 bush. 5 years mean 16.53 bush. rainfall 19.18 inches mean 19.66 inches.)  
 In this well favored rainfall Division 296 (56.38%) farmers reaped 18 bushels and over. Of these 74 reaped 27 bushels and under 33 bushels and 33 reaped 33 bushels to 39 bushels and over.

Farm A from 40 acres of Major Wheat, 1½ bushels to acre sown in June without super, reaped an average of 40 bushels per acre. The land had 3 ploughings December, March and June with extensive use of cultivators.

Farm B - reaped an average of 37 bushels from 138 acres of Huffs Imperial using 168 lbs. super per acre.

Farm C reaped an average of 36 bushels from 180 acres of Huffs Imperial using 112 lbs. super per acre.

Farm D reaped an average of 35 bushels from 260 acres of Florence, Late Gluyas and Onas wheats using 130 lbs. super.

Several other farms reaped averages of 34 and 33 bushels from Federation Wheat using from 80 lbs. to 168 lbs. of super.

WESTERN DIVISION (av. 3.66 bush. 5 years mean 8.31 bush. - rainfall 7.05 inches mean 11.34 inches).

This division experienced a very dry year and even in good seasons the general average is not high. Yet in 1928-29 - 89 farmers (4%) reaped an average of from 15 bushels to over 27 bushels per acre. In the year 1926/7 the number was 223.

Farm A From 200 acres reaped an average of 27 bushels, 90 lbs super to acre used.

Farm B From 91 acres reaped an average of 26 bushels - using 77 lbs super to acre and chiefly Ford seed.

MURRAY MALLEE DIVISION (av. 6.17 bushels, 5 years mean 7.77 - Rainfall 7.46 mean 10.89) - The general mean average for the whole Division is low in normal seasons yet even in 1928-29 - 126 farmers reaped averages from 15 bushels to over 21 bushels. For 1926-27 the number was 242.

## II. VARIETIES OF SEED WHEAT SOWN 1928-29 - FOUR MOST POPULAR.

<u>Division</u>	<u>In order of preference.</u>
Central	Ford, Gluyas, Federation, Nabawa.
Lower North	Ford, Federation, Gluyas, Currawa.
Upper North	Federation, Currawa, Gluyas, Daphne.
South Eastern	Federation, Major, Ford, Nabawa.
Western	Gluyas, Late Gluyas, Ford, Currawa.
Murray Mallee	Gluyas, Currawa, Ford, Sultan.

## WHOLE STATE.

"GLUYAS 621,317 acres 16.46%; FEDERATION 393,293 acres 10.42%; FORD 376,451 acres 9.97%; LATE GLUYAS 331,737 acres 8.78%; CURRAWA 325,480 acres 8.62%.

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PRODUCTIVITY OF WHEAT AREAS - SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Comparative analysis of the Productivity of Wheat Areas per acre for the seasons 1925-6, 1926-7 and 1928-9.  
 Total average inches rainfall in Agricultural Areas (with April - November totals in parentheses)  
 1925 - 13.26 (11.27); 1926 - 14.93 (13.40); 1928 - 12.44 (9.39).

Production Groups.	No. of Wheat Growers			Area of Crop			PRODUCTION		
	1925/6	1926/7	1928/9	1925/6	1926/7	1928/9	1925/6	1926/7	1928/9
	No.	No.	No.	Ac.	Ac.	Ac.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.
Under 3 Bush.	823	303	2,759	134,521	49,627	983,147	180,568	106,521	1,565,526
3 & under 6	1,629	1,210	2,321	360,810	236,770	731,579	1,566,745	1,083,678	3,363,206
6 " " 9	2,105	2,045	2,014	477,336	483,317	529,507	3,504,744	3,628,641	4,029,791
9 " " 12	1,931	2,372	1,785	402,217	579,433	399,766	4,159,849	5,966,460	4,256,785
12 " " 15	1,779	2,033	1,567	347,913	469,999	327,200	4,641,960	6,232,221	4,448,571
15 " " 18	1,568	1,879	1,267	306,577	391,692	235,190	5,010,137	6,364,917	3,879,184
18 " " 21	1,182	1,438	718	224,066	284,199	116,534	4,333,952	5,467,599	2,256,465
21 " " 27	972	1,103	715	176,085	216,927	97,435	4,119,448	5,013,904	2,272,985
27 " " 33	213	274	192	32,016	47,364	22,050	936,546	1,370,677	643,567
33 and up.	46	81	48	4,107	9,075	3,155	149,152	324,093	110,014
S U M M A R Y T O T A L S									
Total under 9 % to total	4,557 (37.21)	3,558 (27.93)	7,094 (53.00)	972,667 (39.46)	769,714 (27.80)	2,244,233 (65.13)	5,252,057 (18.36)	4,818,840 (13.55)	8,958,523 (33.40)
Total 9 to 18 % to total	5,278 (43.09)	6,284 (49.33)	4,619 (34.50)	1,056,707 (42.85)	1,441,124 (52.06)	962,156 (27.93)	13,811,946 (48.30)	18,563,598 (52.21)	12,584,540 (46.91)
Total 18 & up. % to total	2,413 (19.70)	2,896 (22.74)	1,673 (12.50)	436,274 (17.69)	557,565 (20.14)	239,174 (6.94)	9,539,098 (33.34)	12,176,273 (34.24)	5,283,031 (19.69)
Grand Total	12,248 (100.00)	12,738 (100.00)	13,386 (100.00)	2,465,648 (100.00)	2,768,403 (100.00)	3,445,563 (100.00)	28,603,101 (100.00)	35,558,711 (100.00)	26,826,094 (100.00)

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Statistical Office,  
 ADELAIDE.

27th November, 1929.

GOVERNMENT STATIST &  
 REG. GEN. OF B.D. & M.